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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Bureau of Agricultural Economics
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THE WOOL SITUATION
- with -
Quarterly Statistical Supplement

Summary

Prices of wool in this country probably will be maintained near present levels during the first 3 or 4 months of the new marketing season which begins April 1, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reports. Although domestic and foreign prices for wool weakened slightly in the last month, supplies of wool in the United States and abroad are relatively small and demand conditions continue favorable.

Production of shorn wool in the United States in 1937 is not expected to show much change from that of last year when 360,327,000 pounds were produced. An increase of 1 percent in the number of stock sheep and lambs on hand as of January 1 probably will be offset by unfavorable range conditions in the Western States, where approximately 70 percent of the shorn wool is produced. Domestic production of pulled wool in 1936 was estimated at 66,202,000 pounds.

Wool prices in the United States are now at a relatively high level as compared with prices of other textile fibers. The high prices are a result of the exceptionally strong demand for wool in the past 2 years and the reduction in world wool supplies. Although there is as yet no definite indication of a reduction in mill consumption of wool for 1937, it is possible, in view of the relatively high level of wool prices in relation to prices of other textile materials, that consumption in the United States in 1937 may not be as large as in 1936.

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Trading in domestic wools on the Boston market was very light during February. Heavy arrivals of foreign wools made it difficult to obtain the premium asked on the small remaining supplies of spot domestic wools at Boston and lower quotations were reported on some grades. The declines were not expected to affect farm prices of wool materially. A considerable amount of the 1937 clip of territory wool is already under contract to dealers and mills for delivery after shearing.

Wool prices in foreign markets were somewhat irregular during February but prices at the opening of the London sales on March 2 showed little change as compared with the closing prices on January 27. In view of the relatively small supplies remaining for disposal in the Southern Hemisphere foreign wool prices are likely to remain near present levels, at least until the new Southern Hemisphere clip becomes available next fall.

Copies of "Agricultural Statistics, 1936" Available

A limited number of copies of "Agricultural Statistics, 1936" are still available. This 420-page printed volume contains statistics which cover practically all of the important farm products of the United States. The statistics relate to acreage, production, farm price, farm value, and foreign trade of the principal commodities. Copies may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., at 50 cents each.

DOMESTIC SITUATION

Background - The sharp decline in wool prices from 1929 to the summer of 1932 reflected the influence of the world wide business depression and the unusually large world production of wool. A marked rise in prices in 1933 resulting from increased demand was followed by a decline in 1934. General improvement in economic conditions and expanded rearmament programs in some foreign countries have resulted in a strong world demand for wool since the middle of 1935. World supplies have been reduced and prices of most wools have advanced to the highest levels since 1929. The large consumption of wool by United States mills in 1935 and 1936 has greatly increased import requirements, and changes in the foreign wool situation are of considerable importance in the domestic outlook.

Wool Sales and Prices

Trading in domestic wools on the Boston market was very light during February. Heavy arrivals of foreign wools made it difficult to secure the premium asked on the small remaining supplies of spot domestic wools at Boston and lower quotations were reported on some grades. The declines represented an adjustment in price relationships rather than a weakening of the domestic price situation. The quantity of wool sold was too small to serve as a test of market values.

Fine territory wools in original bags were available at Boston at $1.08-$1.10 a pound, scoured basis, the latter part of February compared with about $1.12 a pound at the January peak. The decline amounted to about 1-2 cents a pound grease basis. Ohio and similar fleece wools including combing 3/8 and 1/4 blood grades were offered at 49-50 cents at the end of February compared with 52-54 cents in January. See table 1 for monthly average prices of graded territory wools.

The chief interest in domestic wools has now shifted to the new clip. Early shorn Arizona wools, grading average too good French combing, were reported sold to mills in February at about $1.05-$1.07 a pound, scoured basis, delivered to buyers in the East. The grease wool prices would be about 42-43 cents for lots shrinking 60 percent and about 35-36 cents for lots shrinking 66-67 percent. A considerable amount of the 1937 clip of territory wool is already under contract to dealers and mills for delivery after shearing.

Domestic Production

Wool production in the United States in 1936 was 427,000,000 pounds according to the revised estimate released by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics on March 2, 1937, showing production of shorn and pulled wool combined. There was a decrease of about 1 percent compared with production in the 2 preceding years and a reduction of about the same percentage compared with the average for the years 1930-34. As compared with the record production of 1931, there was a decrease of 4 percent.

Judged by the number of stock sheep and lambs on hand on January 1 1937, as compared with a year ago, and the condition of sheep in the western range area during the first 8 months of the current wool growing season, the shorn wool clip in 1937 will differ very little from the 360,327,000 pounds produced in 1936. That year 45,663,000 sheep were shorn, with an average weight per fleece of 7.89 pounds. The 1 percent increase in the number of stock sheep and lambs on hand as of January 1, 47,150,000, probably will be offset to some extent by the poorer sheep and range conditions in the western range area where approximately 74 percent of the shorn wool clip was produced in 1936. Sheep conditions in the western range area for the 8-month period ended February 1, 1937, were five points lower than in the same period a year earlier and range conditions ten points lower, but they were similar to conditions preceding the 1934 clip.

United States: Number of stock sheep on hand January 1, number shorn, and wool production, 1930-37

Year	Sheep and lambs		Wool			
	Number of stock sheep and lambs on hand Jan. 1	Number shorn	Average weight of fleece	Shorn wool clip	Pulled wool produced	Total production of wool
	Million head	Million head	Pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
1930	45.6	44.5	7.90	352.1	61.9	414.0
1931	47.7	46.8	8.04	376.3	66.1	442.4
1932	47.8	45.2	7.76	351.0	67.1	418.1
1933	47.3	46.0	8.13	374.2	64.2	438.4
1934	48.5	46.7	7.94	370.3	60.5	430.8
1935	46.6	45.5	8.02	364.7	66.0	430.7
1936	46.4	45.7	7.89	360.3	66.2	426.5
1937	47.2					

Mill Consumption

Consumption of apparel wool by United States mills in January was below the unusually high level reached in December but the rate of consumption was the highest reported for January since 1923. The weekly average consumption of apparel wool was 5,763,000 pounds, scoured basis, in January compared with the revised estimate of 6,962,000 pounds for December and 5,645,000 pounds in January 1936. Total consumption in the 5 weeks ended January 30 was 28,814,000 pounds, scoured basis, and was equivalent to 51,120,000 pounds of shorn wool, greasy shorn basis, and 7,995,000 pounds of pulled wool, greasy pulled basis. Consumption by grades and origin for 1935 and 1936 is shown in table 2 in the Statistical Supplement. Machinery activity figures for 1935 and 1936 are shown in table 3.

Unfilled Orders Held by Mills on January 2

The National Association of Wool Manufacturers reports the following statistics on unfilled orders held for certain woven cloths containing by weight more than 25 percent of yarns spun on the woolen and worsted system by firms in the United States equipped in January 1935 with 34,000 looms.

Date	Men's wear	Women's wear	Auto cloths 1/	Total
	1,000 linear yards	1,000 linear yards	1,000 linear yards	1,000 linear yards
Dec. 23, 1935	36,127	10,808	2/	2/
Oct. 3, 1936	24,834	6,725	2,692	34,251
Jan. 2, 1937	39,296	15,078	3,726	58,100

Compiled from "Monthly Statistics of Wool Manufacture", January 1937
Cloth less than 50 inches wide reported in equivalent 54-inch yardage.

1/ Except those with pile or jacquard design.
2/ No comparable figures collected.

At the average rate of production maintained by these mills in 1936, the unfilled orders on January 2 represented about 13 weeks of activity. Men's wear fabrics were sold somewhat further ahead than women's wear and mill production of spring goods was expected to continue somewhat later than usual this year. Mill openings on fall lines are expected in March and mill consumption probably will be fairly well maintained during the first half of the year.

Index Numbers of Textile Prices

Index numbers of prices of wool, cotton, silk, and rayon yarn in the United States for the years 1929 to 1936 are shown in the accompanying table. The decline in apparel wool prices during the depression years was not as great as the decline in prices of cotton and silk and the recovery from the low has been greater for wool than for the other fibers. In January 1937 the index number for fine wool was 116.2 (1929 = 100) compared with 70.5 for cotton, 41.6 for silk and 48.2 for rayon.

The high level of wool prices has been the result of exceptionally strong demand and reduced world supplies. Consumption of apparel wool by United States mills in both 1935 and 1936 was greater than in any previous year since 1923. Consumption of cotton did not regain the predepression level until 1936. Cotton consumption is related more directly to variations in industrial activity than is wool consumption, since a considerable part of the total consumption of cotton is for industrial uses while the principal use of wool is in the clothing industry.

Although there are as yet no definite indications of a material decline in mill consumption of wool in 1937, it is possible, in view of the continued high prices of wool in relation to prices of other textile materials, that mill consumption in 1937 will not be so large as in 1936.

Index numbers of prices of wool, cotton, silk, and rayon yarn, United States, 1929-36

(1929 = 100)

Year	Wool	Cotton	Silk	Rayon yarn
1929	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1930	77.7	69.9	69.2	85.0
1931	64.3	43.4	48.7	60.8
1932	47.9	38.6	31.6	53.0
1933	68.3	45.9	32.7	48.9
1934	83.2	66.9	26.3	47.1
1935	76.2	64.7	33.1	46.0
1936	93.8	65.5	35.8	47.0
1937				
Jan.	116.2	70.5	41.6	48.2

Index numbers are based on yearly averages of monthly prices per pound. Items as follows: Wool, strictly combing fine staple territory, Boston market; Cotton, Middling 7/8 inch, average at 10 markets; Silk, Japanese silk double-extra 13-15; 78 percent white, at New York; Rayon yarn, domestic first quality 150A denier.

FOREIGN SITUATION

Wool Sales and Prices

London auctions - The second series of 1937 wool auctions at London opened on March 2. Prices for merino wools at the opening of the series were unchanged as compared with the closing prices of the previous series on January 27, but prices of most greasy crossbred wools and sliped wools were slightly lower than at the January close, according to a report from C. C. Taylor, Agricultural Attache at London. Prices of New Zealand scoured crossbred wools were 5 percent higher than on January 27, and lamb's wool crossbreds were unchanged. See table 1 of Statistical Supplement for quotations on specified grades.

England was the principal buyer at the opening of the series. American buyers were not operating, but some Dutch, Belgian, and French orders were reported. Approximately 75,250 bales were available for this series, including 28,000 bales from Australia and Tasmania, 35,450 bales from New Zealand, and 11,000 bales from South America.

Southern Hemisphere sales - Wool prices at the Southern Hemisphere sales in the latter part of January and in February were irregular and slightly lower. The irregularity in prices in Australia and South Africa apparently was due in part to the spasmodic purchasing by Japanese buyers in those countries. Japanese imports from Australia have been placed on a quota basis and are regulated by the Wool Import Control Association of Japan. The current wool selling season is expected to close somewhat early in most Southern Hemisphere countries. Most available wool has already been disposed of in Argentina and Uruguay.

The average price of all greasy wool sold in Australian selling centers in January was 31.6 cents a pound (current rate of exchange) compared with 28 cents in December and 25.2 cents in January 1936. For the third week in February the average price of greasy wool at the Sydney sales was 29.6 cents a pound.

Manufacturing Activity in Importing Countries

The monthly index of wool top production for the United Kingdom, France, Belgium, Poland, and Hungary was 105 in December (1935 = 100) compared with 98 in November 1936 and December 1935 according to statistics published in "Wool Intelligence Notes", England. The average monthly production in 1936 was slightly below that of 1935.

Wool manufacturing activity continued relatively satisfactory in most countries during January.

Supplies of Wool in Importing Countries

Imports of wool into the principal importing countries increased sharply in recent months as the Southern Hemisphere selling season advanced. Wool stocks, however, are still relatively low in most countries. See table 5

Apparent Supplies in Southern Hemisphere Countries, February 1, 1937

As the 1936-37 wool selling season advances, it becomes apparent that supplies in Southern Hemisphere countries still to come forward are materially below a year ago. It is estimated that on February 1, 1937, apparent supplies 1/ were about 9 percent smaller than on the same date of last year, and 10 percent below the average for that date of the 5 years 1931-35. Whereas total supplies available for disposal during the entire season in these countries are estimated to be about 3 percent smaller than in the preceding season principally because of a smaller carry-over, exports so far this season have exceeded those of a year ago by 6 percent.

1/ Carry-over plus estimated production minus exports from beginning of season to January 31. No deduction made for relatively small quantities consumed locally nor for wool sold but not yet exported.

EARLY PRODUCTION PROSPECTS FOR 1937

Northern Hemisphere.- Interest is now centering in the 1937 spring wool clip in the Northern Hemisphere. Such information as is available at present on sheep numbers and condition indicate not much change in the 1937 shorn wool clip in the United States, with probably some increase in production in England and Wales and in Germany.

Increases of 2 percent and 10 percent, respectively, in end-of-year sheep numbers in England and Wales and in Germany indicate some increase in wool production in these countries in 1937. Wool production in England and Wales declined from 90,000,000 pounds in 1933 to only 78,000,000 pounds in 1936 following a corresponding decrease in sheep numbers. In Germany, on the contrary, indications are that wool production will continue the increase begun in 1935. In that country it increased from approximately 30,000,000 pounds in 1934 to 34,500,000 in 1936.

Southern Hemisphere.- Seasonal prospects are now shaping up well in the important wool producing countries of the Southern Hemisphere. Late summer (December - January) rains in most of the important wool producing countries of the Southern Hemisphere has benefited pastures and ensured a fairly good growth of grass for the late fall and early winter months (March-June), even in those parts which suffered most severely from the summer drought. Green feed in most instances is already available. There have been no reports of prolonged drought in any country.

Conditions in mid-January were reported as good over the major portion of Australia. The summer had been rather dry, in parts of Queensland and New South Wales, November being an unusually dry month. In December and January, however, rains benefited pastures materially and prospects are now good for fall and winter feed. In New Zealand an abundance of feed is reported from almost all districts. In the Union of South Africa rainfall has been fairly general and pastures have benefited accordingly. The condition of sheep is reported as satisfactory.

World Production in 1936

It is now estimated that world production in 1936, exclusive of Russia and China, was 3,412,000,000 pounds, an increase of 1 percent as compared with 1935. This estimate is based on statistics for 30 countries which produced over four-fifths of the world production in 1935.

Production in six Southern Hemisphere countries amounted to 2,048,000,000 pounds and was approximately the same as in 1935 but larger than in 1934. In 24 Northern Hemisphere countries production is estimated at 932,000,000 pounds, an increase of 2 percent above 1935. The increase in Northern Hemisphere countries were principally in the countries of Central and Southeastern Europe and in the coarse wool producing countries of the Near East

World production of wool, excluding and including Russia and China, 1930-36 1/

Year	Total excluding Russia and China 2/	Russia	China: Estimated production 3/	China: Exports 4/	Total including Russia and China 2/
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
1930.....	3,318	306	78	26	3,702
1931.....	3,413	5/ 212	78	32	3,703
1932.....	3,474	5/ 142	78	5	3,694
1933.....	3,401	141	78	30	3,620
1934.....	3,347	135	78	32	3,560
1935.....	3,387	5/ 167	78	44	3,632
1936.....	6/ 3,412	5/ 200	78		3,690

1/ Revision of estimates published in World Wool Prospects, November 1936, p. 21.

2/ Subject to revision at any time that a revised or better series becomes available for any country. Includes revised estimates for Argentina and Turkey.

3/ Unofficial estimate of production based on sheep numbers in 1933.

4/ Exports are not a reliable index of production owing to the unsettled condition in China.

5/ Estimates based on sheep numbers and average yield as derived from official estimates.

6/ Estimate based on production in 30 countries supplying more than four-fifths of the world production, exclusive of Russia and China.

STATISTICAL SUPPLEMENT

Table 1.-Wool prices per pound in specified markets, selected periods

Market and description	Average 1935	Average 1936	Jan. 1936	Dec. 1936	Jan. 1937	Feb. 1937
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
Boston:						
Terr. combing scoured basis						
64s, 70s, 80s (fine)	74.8	92.0	88.1	106.8	114.0	114.0
56s, (3/8 blood)	63.6	80.4	77.7	94.7	98.8	99.8
46s, (Low 1/4 blood)	51.4	65.9	60.6	79.2	82.1	83.2
Farm price (15th of month)						
Grease basis	19.4	9/26.9	24.1	30.1	31.3	31.6
London: 1/						
Av. quality clean cost 2/						
70s	47.5	58.4	55.6	61.3	64.4	63.7
56s	29.0	35.1	33.5	42.9	49.5	48.4
46s	18.6	23.8	21.7	33.7	39.3	38.7
Bradford: 3/						
Scoured basis-						
64s warp	47.7	59.8	56.3	67.5	69.5	10/ 60.1
50s warp	23.2	29.7	27.1	40.9	44.9	10/ 38.7
Australia:						
Average price at all selling centers, greasy wool 4/			25.2	28.0	31.6	
Sydney (Delivered Bradford) 5/						
Clean basis, 70s warp			60.9	67.4	73.9	
Union of South Africa:						
Average export price, greasy wool			21.0	24.8	28.3	
Price at selling centers 6/						
Clean cost ex-warehouse, 70s warp			57.6	69.4	69.7	
Argentina:						
Buenos Aires market-						
Buenos Aires, South and Southeast, greasy coarse crossbred 7/			12.9	20.9		
Uruguay:						
Montevideo market-						
Fine crossbred, greasy, 50s-56s to 60s 8/			28.3	38.8	40.8	

Foreign prices have been converted at prevailing rates of exchange.
1/ Average of quotations for each series of London sales as reported by the London office of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. For months when no sales were held, figures are interpolations of nearest actual prices.
2/ Top and noil in oil. 3/ Quotations reported about the 25th of the month by the London office of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. 4/ National Council of Wool Selling Brokers. 5/ Wool Record and Textile World, Bradford. 6/ South African Ministry for Agriculture. 7/ Monthly average of weekly range quoted in Revista Quincenal de Precios published by Salaberry, Bercetche & Cia., B. A. 8/ Average of maximum and minimum prices for last of month. Furnished by American Consul A. W. Ferrin. 9/ Preliminary. 10/ New series.

Table 2.-Mill consumption of wool in the United States by grade and origin, scoured basis, 1935 and 1936

Item	1935 Domestic	1935 Foreign	1935 Total	1935 Percent domestic	1936 Domestic	1936 Foreign	1936 Total	1936 Percent domestic
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Percent	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Percent
Apparel class								
64s,70s,80s ...	112.3	3.4	115.7	97.1	89.3	12.8	102.1	87.5
58s, 60s	44.9	1.8	46.7	96.2	34.3	5.2	39.4	86.9
56s	66.5	3.5	70.0	94.9	48.3	11.2	59.6	81.1
48s, 50s	46.2	4.5	50.7	91.1	33.5	11.0	44.5	75.2
46s	6.6	2.2	8.9	74.8)	7.4	25.4	32.8	22.5
36s,40s,44s ...	3.2	8.9	12.0	26.2)				
Total apparel	279.7	24.3	304.0	92.0	212.8	65.6	278.4	76.4
Carpet class (all foreign)	---	98.5	98.5	---	---	106.1	106.1	---

Compiled from Raw Wool Consumption Reports, Bureau of the Census.

Table 3.-Machinery activity in the woolen and worsted industry, United States, October-December 1935 and 1936

Year and month	Combs	Spindles: Woolen	Spindles: Worsted	Looms: Broad 1/	Looms: Narrow 2/	Looms: Carpet
	1,000 hours	1,000 hours	1,000 hours	1,000 hours	1,000 hours	1,000 hours
	Weekly average machine and spindle hours reported					
1935 3/						
Oct.	160	98,599	88,166	1,815	168	201
Nov.	162	96,242	90,522	1,926	161	200
Dec.	136	88,243	77,178	1,978	153	165
Year	144	90,292	81,764	1,839	136	194
1936 3/						
Oct.	124	87,175	82,200	1,623	176	247
Nov.	140	93,107	91,566	1,842	163	238
Dec.	163	107,862	105,387	2,171	196	248
Year	126	89,322	75,283	1,761	160	202
	Percentage of maximum single shift, new basis 4/					
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1935 5/	135.1	117.9	87.8	103.0	39.9	64.5
1936 5/	121.5	118.0	83.6	99.0	51.7	68.5

Compiled from Wool Machinery Activity Reports issued by the Bureau of the Census. 1/ Woolen and worsted looms wider than 50" reed space. 2/ Woolen and worsted looms with 50" reed space or less. 3/ The first month in each quarter of 1936 is a 5-week period, and the 2 following months are 4-week periods. In 1935 the first 2 months of each quarter are 4-week periods and the final month is a 5-week period. 4/ Total machines times hours which they could have been operated on a single shift of 40 hours per week. 5/ Weighted average.

Table 4.- Wool imports into principal consuming countries, specified periods

Country and item	1933	1934	1935	Jan.-Dec. 1935	Jan.-Dec. 1936
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
United States					
Imports 1/					
Apparel wool ..	35.6	29.3	42.0	42.0	110.7
Carpet wool ...	115.4	79.1	158.5	158.5	143.3
United Kingdom					
Imports	952.0	788.5	864.2	864.1	914.2
Reexports	360.1	268.8	283.4	283.2	276.7
Import balance ..	591.9	519.7	580.8	580.8	637.5
Germany				Jan.-Nov.	
Imports	347.6	316.2	272.8	264.1	216.9
Reexports	12.5	9.8	3.3	3.0	0.7
Import balance ..	335.1	306.4	269.5	261.1	216.2
Japan					
Imports 2/	238.8	181.5	243.5	211.2	204.3
France					
Imports, shorn	534.3	336.9	385.5	355.2	321.6
On skins (wool equivalent) 3/	64.1	43.7	50.5	45.9	40.3
Exports	51.4	45.9	47.2	41.4	57.9
Import balance ..	547.0	334.7	388.8	359.7	304.0
Belgium					
Imports	213.3	164.6	234.8	214.6	209.5
Exports	139.7	99.6	117.2	108.1	91.5
Import balance ..	73.6	65.0	117.6	106.5	118.0

Compiled from official sources and from "Wool Intelligence Notes" published by the Imperial Economic Committee of the United Kingdom.

1/ Imports for consumption. Apparel wools "not finer than 40s" are included with apparel wool for all years. In statistics published by the Department of Commerce from 1930 to 1935, such wools were included with carpet wools.

2/ Reexports are negligible.

3/ Estimated at 4/9 of weight of wooled skins.

Table 5. - Stocks of raw wool and wool tops in specified foreign importing countries at the end of each month, 1935 and 1936

Item and year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	(In millions of pounds)											
Raw wool:												
Japan - whses. 1/												
1935	44	46	41	44	48	50	55	56	41	31	37	44
1936	52	57	71	82	84	86	76	62	50	38	30	24
United Kingdom												
Public whses. at chief ports												
1935	-	86	-	89	-	80	-	76	-	63	-	41
1936	-	55	50	62	60	68	58	61	59	56	55	39
Yorkshire Depots 2/												
1935	-	47	-	76	-	92	-	75	-	51	-	43
1936	-	54	63	80	92	89	83	74	62	53	49	47
Wool tops at combing establishments 3/												
France												
1935	30	30	28	29	28	30	32	33	31	28	25	26
1936	27	27	28	28	29	27	28	27	26	20	17	17
Germany												
1935	12	13	13	12	12	11	11	11	10	8	7	8
1936	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	4	5
Belgium												
1935	7	8	8	8	7	7	8	8	8	8	7	8
1936	8	7	8	8	7	7	7	7	8	6	6	6

Compiled as follows - Japan: "Wool Intelligence Notes", England, quoting reports of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce and Industry; United Kingdom: "Wool Intelligence Notes"; France, Germany and Belgium: "Weekly Wool Chart",Bradford.

1/ Manufacturers' stocks are not included.

2/ Stocks at railway and canal depots in Yorkshire are believed to indicate roughly the trend of stocks in the hands of manufacturers.

3/ These statistics are for commission combers only but are believed to be representative of the movement of total stocks in countries reported.

Table 6.- Estimated production of wool in specified countries, average 1926-30, annual 1932-36

Country	Average 1926-30	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936 1/
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Southern Hemisphere						
Australia	926.4	1,062.6	995.9	1,015.4	991.7	2/983.0
New Zealand 3/ 4/	266.4	288.4	300.5	275.9	316.5	295.0
Chile	26.7	5/ 25.9	3/ 25.7	3/ 28.7	3/ 25.4	3/ 22.8
Brazil	26.1	33.7	35.3	36.4	3/ 42.2	--
Argentina 6/	327.0	364.0	364.0	364.0	7/359.0	7/373.0
Uruguay 3/	140.1	7/110.2	7/104.7	7/119.0	113.0	7/112.4
British South Africa 8/	294.1	319.4	275.2	210.0	237.8	262.2
Total of 6 countries reporting to 1936	1,980.7	2,170.5	2,066.0	2,013.0	2,043.4	2,048.4
Northern Hemisphere						
North America:						
United States 9/						
Shorn	310.7	351.0	374.2	370.3	364.7	360.3
Pulled 10/	53.6	67.1	64.2	60.5	66.0	66.2
Total	364.3	418.1	438.4	430.8	430.7	426.5
Canada	19.5	20.5	19.3	19.5	19.4	5/ 19.3
Total 2 countries reporting to 1936	383.8	438.6	457.7	450.3	450.1	445.8
Mexico 11/	6.3	(9.0)	(9.6)	10.3	(10.3)	--
Europe:						
United Kingdom (England and Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland)	112.4	118.5	119.9	112.3	108.6	106.7
Irish Free State	18.0	19.6	19.6	17.0	16.5	5/16.7
Norway	5.6	5.7	5/ 5.8	6.0	5.7	5/ 5.9
France	46.5	43.2	43.0	42.3	5/41.0	5/41.0
Spain 11/	73.7	5/70.0	67.6	(68.0)	71.0	--
Italy 12/	53.3	40.0	39.0	38.1	37.5	5/36.3
Germany	34.8	5/30.8	30.0	5/29.8	5/30.7	5/34.5
Czechoslovakia 11/	3.7	2.3	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.4
Hungary	12.2	10.8	5/10.5	5/10.8	5/12.2	5/14.3
Yugoslavia 5/	28.3	30.5	30.8	31.1	32.1	33.3
Greece	14.0	14.9	16.0	16.7	17.3	18.0
Bulgaria 5/	22.7	20.0	21.9	23.2	23.8	24.6
Rumania 11/	66.9	62.7	61.5	68.0	59.1	--
Poland 5/	9.5	9.5	9.6	9.6	10.4	11.2
Estonia	1.8	1.7	2.2	2.1	2.0	5/ 2.0
Latvia	3.5	3.6	4.1	4.6	5/ 4.9	5/ 4.9
Lithuania	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8
Total 17 European countries reporting to 1936	370.1	354.9	358.2	349.5	348.7	355.6

Continued -

Table 6.-Estimated production of wool in specified countries, average 1926-30, annual 1932-36 Cont'd

Country	Average 1926-30	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936 1/
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Africa and Asia:						
Morocco	22.2 5/	19.6 5/	22.3 5/	22.0 5/	26.0	---
Algeria	41.9	39.3 5/	39.3 5/	41.2 5/	43.6 5/	47.9
Tunis	4.0 5/	4.4 5/	5.2 5/	5.5 5/	5.5 5/	5.5
Turkey 13/	31.3	24.7	34.3	30.9	35.3	42.0
Iraq 14/	18.6	18.7	16.3	17.7	18.5	21.5
Syria 14/	13.6	10.0	8.5	13.3	(13.3)	14.1
Total 5 countries of Africa and Asia reporting to 1936	109.4	97.1	103.6	108.6	116.2	131.0
Total 24 Northern Hemisphere countries reporting to 1936	863.3	890.6	919.5	908.4	915.0	932.4
Total 30 Northern and Southern Hemisphere countries reporting to 1936	2,844.0	3,061.1	2,985.5	2,921.4	2,958.4	2,980.8
Estimated world total, excl. Russia and China 15/	3,243.0	3,474.0	3,401.0	3,347.0	3,387.0	16/ 3,412.0
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	363.0	17/ 142.0	141.0	135.0	17/ 167.0	17/ 200.0
China 18/	78.0	78.0	78.0	78.0	78.0	78.0
Estimated total including Russia and China 15/	3,684.0	3,694.0	3,620.0	3,560.0	3,632.0	3,690.0

This table includes wool shorn during the calendar year in the Northern Hemisphere and that shorn during the season beginning July 1 or October 1 of the given calendar year in the Southern Hemisphere, the bulk being shorn during the last 6 months of the given calendar year. Pulled wool is included in the total for most important countries at its grease equivalent. Figures in parenthesis are interpolated or carried forward. See World Wool Prospects, November 1936, for table showing all countries, and current monthly issues of the Wool Situation for latest estimates.

1/ Preliminary. Subject to revision.

2/ Preshearing estimate of Australian wool brokers and growers converted to pounds, grease equivalent.

3/ Estimates based on exports alone, or exports, stocks, and domestic consumption and any other available information.

4/ Years 1926 and 1936 supplied by the Imperial Economic Committee. Years 1927-28 to 1935-36, Official Yearbook of New Zealand - 1936 - and Monthly Abstract of New Zealand Statistics, August 1936.

Continued -

Table 6.-Estimated production of wool in specified countries, average 1926-30, annual 1932-36 Cont'd

NOTES, CONT'D

5/ Estimates based on sheep numbers at date nearest shearing and other available data.
6/ Estimates of Argentina Ministry of Agriculture. Subject to revision.
7/ Estimates supplies by U. S. Department of Agriculture Agricultural Attache' in Argentina.
8/ Revised estimates furnished by Union of South Africa, Division of Economics and Markets. Includes production in Basutoland, Southern Rhodesia, and Southwest Africa.
9/ Revised estimates of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.
10/ Published as reported by pulleries and is mostly washed.
11/ Revisions based on recent census figures of wool production or of sheep numbers.
12/ Revised estimates based on estimates published in Prospettive Economiche for 1930 and 1935. Intervening years based on information contained in same source as to trend in sheep numbers in past 5 years.
13/ Estimates recently published by the Banque Centrale de la Turquie. These estimates supersede those published formerly which were based on exports.
14/ Unofficial estimates based on information furnished by United States Government representative.
15/ Totals subject to revision. Few countries publish official estimates of wool production. In the absence of official figures for many countries, various estimates have been used. Some have been furnished by United States Government representatives abroad and others have been based on reports of sheep numbers, average fleece weights, and any other available data. For some principal exporting countries the figures are seasonal exports alone, or estimates derived from exports, carry-over, and domestic consumption. In the case of most Asiatic countries the figures are rough commercial estimates.
16/ Estimate based on production in 30 countries as compared with 1935.
17/ Estimate based on sheep numbers and average yield as derived from official estimates for recent years.
18/ Unofficial estimates based on sheep numbers in 1933. Owing to unsettled conditions in recent years exports of sheep's wool not reliable index of production.

Table 7.- Numbers of sheep in principal exporting and importing countries, averages 1909-13, 1921-25, 1926-30, annual 1931-37

Period	Exporting countries: Australia, Total, Jan. 1 1/	Australia, New South Wales	New Zealand Apr. 30	Union of South Africa, Aug. 31, Total	Union of South Africa, Aug. 31, Wooled only	Argentina total June 30,	Uruguay	Total
	Millions	Millions	Millions	Millions	Millions	Millions	Millions	Millions
Averages,								
1909-13	90.7	3/47.1	24.0	30.7	25.8	2/43.2	26.3	214.9
1921-25	85.6	3/44.3	23.4	32.6	27.8	4/36.2	14.4	177.8
1926-30	103.3	3/51.7	27.5	43.3	38.9	5/44.4	5/20.6	239.1
1931	110.6	6/53.0	29.8	7/51.0	7/46.5	---	---	---
1932	110.6	6/53.7	28.7	7/50.6	7/45.4	---	15.4	---
1933	112.9	6/52.1	27.8	7/47.3	7/42.6	---		---
1934	109.9	6/53.3	28.6	35.2	7/30.4	39.3		
1935	113.0	56.0	29.0	36.0	30.3	38.0		
1936	112.5	---	30.0	---	---	---		

Period	Importing countries: United States Jan. 1 Total	United States Jan. 1 Stock sheep only	United Kingdom and Irish Free State June	France Jan. 1 1/	Germany Jan. 1 1/	Canada	Total
	Millions	Millions	Millions	Millions	Millions	Millions	Millions
Averages,							
1909-13	43.2	---	29.2	16.2	5.0	2.3	95.9
1921-25	37.8	---	24.5	9.8	5.9	3.0	81.0
1926-30	45.6	40.7	27.9	10.6	4.0	3.4	91.5
1931	53.2	47.7	30.0	10.2	3.5	3.6	100.5
1932	54.0	47.8	30.8	9.8	3.5	3.6	101.7
1933	53.1	47.3	30.2	9.8	3.4	3.4	99.9
1934	53.7	48.5	28.0	9.7	3.4	3.4	98.2
1935	52.2	46.6	28.2	9.6	3.5	3.4	96.9
1936	52.0	46.4	28.2	9.6	8/ 3.9	3.4	97.1
1937	52.6	47.2	9/		8/ 4.3		

Compiled from official sources and the International Institute of Agriculture unless otherwise stated.

1/ Estimates as of December have been considered as of January 1 following year.

2/ Census June 1914. 3/ June 30 following. 4/ Census December 1922.

5/ Census. 6/ March 31 year following.

7/ Estimates based on South African Department of Agriculture reports of changes in sheep numbers in June adjusted to a census basis as of August.

8/ Includes the Saar where there were 5,154 sheep in 1936.

9/ Number in England and Wales on December 1936 were estimated at 12,912,000 compared with 12,662,000 on the same date of 1935.

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